



For Release: Tuesday, July 14, 2020

20-1389-KAN

MOUNTAIN-PLAINS INFORMATION OFFICE: Kansas City, Mo.

Technical information: (816) 285-7000 BLSInfoKansasCity@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/mountain-plains

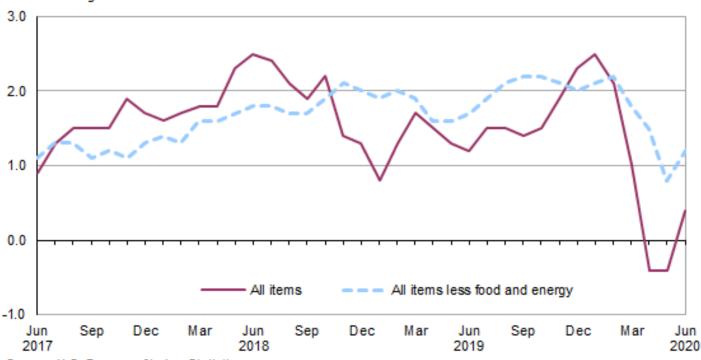
Media contact: (816) 285-7000

# Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – June 2020 Area prices were up 0.8 percent over the past month, up 0.4 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Midwest Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.8 percent in June, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See table A.) The June increase was mainly influenced by higher prices for gasoline. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the all items CPI-U increased 0.4 percent. (See chart 1 and table A.). The index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.2 percent over the year. Food prices rose 3.5 percent. Energy prices dropped 12.9 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Midwest region, June 2017-June 2020 Percent change



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### **Food**

Food prices increased 0.4 percent for the month of June. (See table 1.) Prices for food away from home were 0.8 percent higher during the period, while prices for food at home were unchanged.

Over the year, food prices rose 3.5 percent. Prices for food at home increased 4.8 percent since a year ago, and prices for food away from home increased 1.8 percent.

## **Energy**

The energy index advanced 7.6 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (13.9 percent). Prices for electricity rose 4.7 percent, while prices for natural gas service decreased 0.6 percent for the same period.

Energy prices dropped 12.9 percent over the year, largely due to lower prices for gasoline (-23.5 percent). Prices paid for electricity decreased 0.3 percent, and prices for natural gas service declined 2.8 percent during the past year.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.4 percent in June. Higher prices for motor vehicle insurance (8.7 percent) and shelter (0.3 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for used cars and trucks (-1.1 percent) and apparel (-0.8 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.2 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (2.1 percent) and medical care services (6.5 percent). Lower prices for apparel (-7.1 percent) partly offset the increases.

Table A. Midwest region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

| Month     | 2016    |              | 2017    |              | 2018    |              | 2019    |              | 2020    |              |
|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|
|           | 1-month | 12-<br>month |
| January   | -0.3    | 8.0          | 0.7     | 2.2          | 0.4     | 1.6          | -0.2    | 0.8          | 0.4     | 2.5          |
| February  | 0.2     | 0.4          | 0.8     | 2.4          | 0.9     | 1.7          | 0.9     | 1.3          | 0.3     | 2.1          |
| March     | 0.6     | 0.5          | 0.2     | 1.9          | 0.4     | 1.8          | 1.3     | 1.7          | -0.5    | 1.0          |
| April     | 1.1     | 8.0          | 0.5     | 1.8          | 0.6     | 1.8          | 0.9     | 1.5          | -1.1    | -0.4         |
| May       | 0.8     | 8.0          | 0.4     | 1.4          | 0.9     | 2.3          | 0.6     | 1.3          | 0.3     | -0.4         |
| June      | 1.0     | 0.8          | 0.0     | 0.9          | 0.7     | 2.5          | 0.3     | 1.2          | 0.8     | 0.4          |
| July      | 0.1     | 0.4          | 0.1     | 1.3          | 0.1     | 2.4          | 0.2     | 1.5          |         |              |
| August    | -0.3    | 0.6          | 0.3     | 1.5          | -0.1    | 2.1          | 0.2     | 1.5          |         |              |
| September | 0.4     | 1.1          | 0.5     | 1.5          | 0.1     | 1.9          | 0.0     | 1.4          |         |              |
| October   | 0.1     | 1.0          | 0.1     | 1.5          | 0.2     | 2.2          | 0.2     | 1.5          |         |              |
| November  | -0.4    | 1.2          | 0.0     | 1.9          | -0.5    | 1.4          | 0.0     | 1.9          |         |              |
| December  | -0.2    | 1.8          | 0.0     | 1.7          | -0.9    | 1.3          | -0.2    | 2.3          |         |              |

The July 2020 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest Region is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on June 2020 Consumer Price Index Data

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in June was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed. While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at https://www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm.

### **Technical Note**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.** 

The Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

| Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

|  | Indexes            |                    |                    | Percent change from |              |             |  |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| Expenditure category                               | Apr.<br>2020       | May<br>2020        | Jun.<br>2020       | Jun.<br>2019        | Apr.<br>2020 | May<br>2020 |  |
| All items  | 236.474            | 237.291            | 239.259            | 0.4                 | 1.2          | 0.8         |  |
| All items (December 1977 = 100)                    | 384.756            | 386.086            | 389.287            |                     |              |             |  |
| Food and beverages                                 | 253.602            | 255.163            | 256.156            | 3.3                 | 1.0          | 0.4         |  |
| Food   | 253.291            | 255.009            | 255.935            | 3.5                 | 1.0          | 0.4         |  |
| Food at home                                       | 236.431            | 238.881            | 238.991            | 4.8                 | 1.1          | 0.0         |  |
| Cereals and bakery products                        | 264.421            | 262.661            | 263.866            | 0.7                 | -0.2         | 0.5         |  |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs                     | 263.699            | 277.320            | 284.075            | 14.6                | 7.7          | 2.4         |  |
| Dairy and related products                         | 206.834            | 205.984            | 205.087            | 5.1                 | -0.8         | -0.4        |  |
| Fruits and vegetables                              | 269.304            | 276.653            | 270.590            | 0.0                 | 0.5          | -2.2        |  |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials      | 170.839            | 168.831            | 168.144            | 3.9                 | -1.6         | -0.4        |  |
| Other food at home                                 | 207.573            | 205.651            | 204.792            | 2.6                 | -1.3         | -0.4        |  |
| Food away from home                                | 281.716            | 282.357            | 284.520            | 1.8                 | 1.0          | 0.8         |  |
| Alcoholic beverages                                | 256.055            | 255.647            | 257.467            | 1.3                 | 0.6          | 0.7         |  |
| Housing  | 235.453            | 236.766            | 237.990            | 1.9                 | 1.1          | 0.5         |  |
| Shelter  | 284.083            | 285.288            | 286.137            | 2.1                 | 0.7          | 0.3         |  |
| Rent of primary residence(1)                       | 286.272            | 286.833            | 287.804            | 3.3                 | 0.5          | 0.3         |  |
| Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1) (2)       | 290.897            | 291.630            | 292.443            | 2.9                 | 0.5          | 0.3         |  |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2) | 290.824            | 291.555            | 292.368            | 2.9                 | 0.5          | 0.3         |  |
| Fuels and utilities                                | 215.939            | 219.552            | 224.767            | -0.2                | 4.1          | 2.4         |  |
| Household energy                                   | 171.241            | 174.911            | 180.265            | -1.2                | 5.3          | 3.1         |  |
| Energy services(1)                                 | 177.997            | 182.028            | 187.706            | -1.1                | 5.5          | 3.1         |  |
| Electricity(1)                                     | 197.690            | 201.876            | 211.431            | -0.3                | 7.0          | 4.7         |  |
| Utility (piped) gas service(1)                     | 135.094            | 138.616            | 137.785            | -2.8                | 2.0          | -0.6        |  |
| Household furnishings and operations               | 116.593            | 117.020            | 117.208            | 2.4                 | 0.5          | 0.2         |  |
| Apparel  | 110.183            | 106.846            | 105.982            | -7.1                | -3.8         | -0.8        |  |
| Transportation                                     | 182.380            | 183.753            | 189.894            | -7.9                | 4.1          | 3.3         |  |
| Private transportation                             | 179.598            | 181.347            | 187.562            | -6.6                | 4.4          | 3.4         |  |
| New and used motor vehicles(3)                     | 97.694             | 97.553             | 97.565             | -0.3                | -0.1         | 0.0         |  |
| New vehicles                                       | 137.771            | 138.248            | 138.803            | 1.0                 | 0.7          | 0.4         |  |
| New cars and trucks(3)(4)                          | 97.386             | 97.736             | 98.126             | 1.0                 | 0.8          | 0.4         |  |
| New cars(4)  | 135.773            | 135.386            | 136.532            | 1.9                 | 0.6          | 0.8         |  |
| Used cars and trucks                               | 138.418            | 137.421            | 135.976            | -3.1                | -1.8         | -1.1        |  |
| Motor fuel   | 145.750            | 165.162            | 187.467            | -23.4               | 28.6         | 13.5        |  |
| Gasoline (all types)                               | 143.600            | 163.573            | 186.295            | -23.5               | 29.7         | 13.9        |  |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)                      | 137.731            | 158.112            | 180.505            | -23.9               | 31.1         | 14.2        |  |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)                  | 179.633            | 195.278            | 222.849            | -20.2               | 24.1         | 14.1        |  |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)(4)                   | 182.078            | 193.170            | 214.002            | -19.4               | 17.5         | 10.8        |  |
| Motor vehicle insurance(6)                         | 679.858            | 608.167            | 661.029            | -10.0               | -2.8         | 8.7         |  |
| Medical care                                       | 513.998            | 515.567            | 517.940            | 4.9                 | 0.8          | 0.5         |  |
| Medical care commodities                           | 380.061            | 381.313            | 382.917            | -2.0                | 0.8          | 0.4         |  |
| Medical care services  Professional services       | 558.708<br>426.252 | 560.384<br>427.548 | 563.012<br>428.816 | 6.5<br>1.8          | 0.8<br>0.6   | 0.5<br>0.3  |  |
| Recreation(3)                                      | 123.227            | 123.004            | 123.040            | 1.7                 | -0.2         | 0.0         |  |
| Education and communication(3)                     | 138.970            | 138.892            | 139.006            | 1.2                 | 0.0          | 0.1         |  |
| Education and communication(3)                     |                    |                    |                    |                     |              |             |  |

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

|                                     |              | Indexes     |              | Percent change from |              |             |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| Expenditure category                | Apr.<br>2020 | May<br>2020 | Jun.<br>2020 | Jun.<br>2019        | Apr.<br>2020 | May<br>2020 |  |
| Other goods and services            | 445.297      | 444.549     | 447.885      | 3.4                 | 0.6          | 0.8         |  |
| Commodity and service group         |              |             |              |                     |              |             |  |
| Commodities                         | 174.129      | 175.525     | 177.371      | -1.6                | 1.9          | 1.1         |  |
| Commodities less food and beverages | 137.496      | 138.769     | 140.840      | -4.6                | 2.4          | 1.5         |  |
| Nondurables less food and beverages | 171.227      | 174.352     | 179.304      | -8.8                | 4.7          | 2.8         |  |
| Durables                            | 101.659      | 101.686     | 101.808      | 0.3                 | 0.1          | 0.1         |  |
| Services                            | 301.099      | 301.252     | 303.312      | 1.7                 | 0.7          | 0.7         |  |
| Special aggregate indexes           |              |             |              |                     |              |             |  |
| All items less shelter              | 221.889      | 222.583     | 224.930      | -0.3                | 1.4          | 1.1         |  |
| All items less medical care         | 223.313      | 224.095     | 226.046      | -0.1                | 1.2          | 0.9         |  |
| Commodities less food               | 141.080      | 142.313     | 144.385      | -4.4                | 2.3          | 1.5         |  |
| Nondurables                         | 211.180      | 213.574     | 216.663      | -2.4                | 2.6          | 1.4         |  |
| Nondurables less food               | 175.999      | 178.893     | 183.633      | -8.0                | 4.3          | 2.6         |  |
| Services less rent of shelter(2)    | 328.499      | 327.416     | 330.832      | 1.4                 | 0.7          | 1.0         |  |
| Services less medical care services | 281.811      | 281.842     | 283.866      | 1.0                 | 0.7          | 0.7         |  |
| Energy                              | 159.976      | 170.732     | 183.717      | -12.9               | 14.8         | 7.6         |  |
| All items less energy               | 246.750      | 246.660     | 247.634      | 1.5                 | 0.4          | 0.4         |  |
| All items less food and energy      | 246.317      | 245.905     | 246.892      | 1.2                 | 0.2          | 0.4         |  |

#### Footnotes

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

<sup>(1)</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>(2)</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>(3)</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>(4)</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

<sup>(5)</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

<sup>(6)</sup> Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.